

# **NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR OPTOMETRY**

Thursday May 26, 2022  
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Regents Room  
New York State Education Department  
1411 Broadway, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10018

**Members Present:** Daniella Rutner, Chair; Michele Lagana, Alison Risko, Dana Salgado, Daniella Rutner, Richard Soden, Jeffrey Calhoun & Obinna Akano

**Extended Member:** Frank Pirozzolo, Wayne Gabel

**Members Absent:** Eugene McDonough

**SED Staff:** Dolores Cottrell, Michael Puspurs

**SED Guests:**

**Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dr. Cottrell.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the January 10, 2022 meeting were approved as corrected (Soden/Rutner).

## **Chairperson's Report**

Dr. Rutner had no report to give.

## **Executive Secretary's Report**

Dr. Cottrell started her report by thanking Dr. Salgado for agreeing to be the ARBO representative at the upcoming ARBO meeting. Dr. Cottrell stated that the CE requirement will be changed from 36 CE hours to 54 CE hours every three years for those optometrists who apply to prescribe oral medications due to the Orals Bill becoming law.

**2022 Legislative Update** – Dr. Cottrell stated that the Rho Kinase Inhibitor's regulation amendment will go to the Board of Regents on June 15<sup>th</sup>, and it will become effective on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Board had a lengthy discussion about making the process easier to get medications approved in collaboration with the NYS DOH.

## **Old Business**

**Telehealth Guidelines Update** – Dr. Cottrell gave the members the latest copy of the revised Telehealth guidelines. Dr. Cottrell stated to the members that they will have till June 1<sup>st</sup> to make corrections or comments. The Board Office will then submit the revised version to Legal for review. The Board had a lengthy discussion about making sure the public is protected with the Telehealth guidelines.

**Rhopressa Update** – This was covered in the legislative update.

**Optometrists and DOH Lab List** – The Board had a lengthy discussion concerning the Optometry DOH Lab List.

**VSP Global Eyes of Hope-** Dr. Cottrell stated that in the Fall SED will hopefully be doing a Vision Health month at the Poughkeepsie, Chenango and Geneva school districts. Dr. Cottrell stated they perform vision screenings and bring the mobile van to the schools. Dr. Cottrell encouraged the board members to participate.

**Proposed NYS 40-hour Oral Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agent Certification Course-** Dr. Cottrell stated that SUNY Optometry has submitted a course for this, and she has to schedule a meeting with SED's Director of Examinations and SUNY's exam people.

## **New Business**

**Vuity (treatment of presbyopia) Drug Flow Chart** –The Board had a lengthy discussion on whether to approve it. Motion to approve it. No objections

**Verkazia Drug Flow Chart-** Motion to approve it. No objections.

**Vyzulta-** Motion to approve it. No objections.

**Tyrvaya (treatment of dry eye, administered as a nasal spray) Drug Flow Chart-** The Board had a lengthy discussion on how the statutes and regulations do not support its use, because it is a nasal spray. The Board made a motion to deny due to the mode of administration. Each category in §7101-a., Diagnostic pharmaceuticals, Phase I therapeutic pharmaceutical agents and Phase II therapeutic pharmaceutical agents all state: "... shall mean those drugs which shall be limited to topical application to the surface of the eye ...".

**Diversity Course for Licensure-** Dr. Cottrell informed members that there is a bill in the legislature for every physician, PA, dentist, optometrist, and nurse practitioner to complete course work in cultural training every three years.

**Next Meeting:** The next Board Meeting will be held on Monday, September 19, 2022 in NYC at 10:00 a.m.

**Executive Session:** There were no disciplinary cases to be reviewed.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion was approved for Adjournment at 11: 37AM (Rutner/Salgado).